

REMARKS

Claims 1-18, 20, 21 and 23-29 are pending in the application. Claims 1-7, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28 and 29 are allowed. Claims 8-13, 21, 23, 25 and 27 were rejected. In response to the above-identified Office Action, Applicants amend claim 8, but do not cancel any claims or add any new claims. Reconsideration of the rejected claims in light of the aforementioned amendment and the following remarks is requested.

I. Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 8-13, 21, 23, 25 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,475,925 issued to Braeckelmann *et al.* ("Braeckelmann"). Each of the rejected claims depends directly or indirectly upon claim 8.

As to claim 8, that claim recites a method comprising a number of operations, including introducing a dielectric layer comprising a plurality of alternating material layers, and patterning an interconnection to a substrate, wherein the plurality of alternating material layers comprising the dielectric layer suppress reflections during patterning. The Examiner correctly observes that *Braeckelmann* teaches a dielectric layer composed of a repeated sequence of layers. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the repeated sequence of layers of *Braeckelmann*'s dielectric layer fail to suppress reflections during patterning, as claim 8 requires. Instead, *Braeckelmann* requires a separate anti-reflective coating layer to be formed on the dielectric layer before patterning (and removed after patterning) (*see Braeckelmann*, col. 4, ll. 11-15 and 62-65). For at least this reason, Applicants believe the reference fails to teach or suggest every limitation of claim 8, and request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

As to claims 9-13, 21, 23, 25 and 27, those claims depend directly or indirectly upon claim 8, and are patentable for at least the reason discussed in support of that base claim. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of those dependent claims as well.

II. Allowed Claims

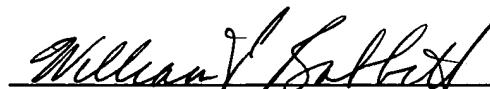
Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has determined claims 1-7, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28 and 29 to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely claims 1-18, 20, 21 and 23-29, patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

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Respectfully submitted,
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